



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/374,598	08/13/1999	JAN HENDRIK MENSEN	044696-5007	3958
23345	7590	12/29/2003	EXAMINER	
MCGUIREWOODS, LLP 1750 TYSONS BLVD SUITE 1800 MCLEAN, VA 22102			TRAN, HANH VAN	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		3637		

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003

25

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---------------------

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

25

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

1. This Office Communications is in response to the Reply Brief filed on 7/21/03.
2. In response to Appellant's remarks on page 1 of the Reply Brief that "the Examiner's Answer ignores the numerous arguments presented in the appeal brief...", the examiner take the position that said arguments have been addressed in paragraph #11 of the Examiner's Answer under the heading "Response to Argument".
3. In response to Appellant's remarks on page 2, paragraph #2, the examiner agrees with Appellant's statement in the Brief.
4. In response to Appellant's remarks regarding grouping of claims, the examiner agreed with Appellant's grouping of claims presented therein.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh V. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-6302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, and alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (703) 308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

HVT *HVT*
December 17, 2003

LANNA MAI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Lanna Mai